The Government is constantly monitoring all developments which have a bearing on India's security and is taking necessary measures to safeguard it. Our grave concern about Pakistan's efforts to acquire weapons beyond its legitimate requirments has been conveyed to all Governments.

Demands of Progamme Staff Association of AIR and Doordarshan

266. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) what are the main demands of the Programme Staff Association of the AIR and Doordarshan in support of which they launched an agitation recently and what is Government's reaction thereto;

(b) whether Government have given any assurance to them recently; and

(c) what is the decision of Government about setting up Indian Broadcasting Service which may include the programme staff and what are the reasons for delay in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) The main demand of the Programme Staff Association of All India Radio and Doordarshan is the constitution of the Indian Broadcasting (Programme) Service.

(b) The representatives of the Association have been told that steps have been taken for the early constitution of the Service.

(c) Constitution of an organised Central Service involves considerations of complex issues involving consultation with other Ministries/Departments. No further delay in the constitution of the Service is envisaged.

Indian Foreign Secretary's Statement at Islamabad

267. SHRI JAGESH DESAI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to Indian Foreign Secretary Shri Muchkund Dubey's reported statement at Islamabad on July 20, 1990 stating that 'There is no risk of war. There never was any"; if so, what is Government's reaction; and

(b) what is the present position in this respect *vis-a-vis* chances of war and state of relations with Pakistan today?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) Yes, Sir. The statement reflects India's policy of seeking resolution of all differences peacefully through dialogue and discussion and not through military confrontation. We hope that Pakistan would also abide by its commitment to the Simla Agreement, which has proved to be a time-tested framework for conduct of bilateral relations.

(b) Discussions will be resumed with Pakistan in the second week of August, on the Confidence Building package proposal made by India on 28 May, 1990 so as to defuse the present tensions and works out tanglible and credible measures to allay India's concerns regarding Pakistan's support to terrorism in Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir.

Conference of Editors organised by the Indian Federation of Small and Medium Newspapers held in Lucknow

268. SHR M. M. JACOB: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that an All-India Conference of Editors (AICE) 1990 organised by the Indian Federation of Small and Medium Newspapers was held in Lucknow on 7th and 8th July, 1990; and

(b) if so, what were its detailed recommendations and what action Government propose to take on the same?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Conference have adopted resolutions urging the Government to provide concessions/facilities to small and medium newspapers as given in the Statement. (*See* below) Government is already alive to the problems of small and medium newspapers. An Expert Committee has been constituted to look into their problems. In fact, number of concession/facilities are already available to small and meduim newspapers. Government have also noted the contents of the resolutions.

Statement

(1) NEWSPRINT PRICE

The sale price of newsprint (both indigenous and imported) allocated through Registrar of Newspapers for India should be reduced by a minimum of 50 per cent.

(2) ADVERTISEMENTS

All Central and State Government agencies, union territories, including Andaman and Nicobar islands, State Information and Publicity departments and central/state public sector undertakings should release their advertisements to the extent of at least 50 per cent of the total allocation to small newspapers and 25 per cent to medium newspapers.

(3) 10 MT NEWSPRINT

The requirements of newsprint to the small and medium newspapers upto 10 MT should be met by imported or indigenous newsprint at the option and choice of the concerned indenting newspaper.

(4) POSTAL RATE

The Postal charges for small and medium newspapers should be brought down to 5 paise per 100 gram as was the position earlier.

(5) PHONE

One telephone connection to small and medium newspapers should be allowed rent free.

(6) TELEPRINTER

50 per cent subsidy on rental of teleprinters be allowed to small and medium newspapers using teleprinters.

(7) TRAINING

Government should provide financial assistance to small and medium newspaper organisations for their training programmes.

(8) RAIL TRAVEL

50 per cent concession on travel by rail in second class and 25 per cent on travel in first class should be provided to editors of all regular small and medium newspapers.

(9) LAND AND HOUSE

Central and state governments should provide government accommodation in centrally located areas at specially low rate to Indian Federation of Small and Medium Newspapers for its office and visiting member editors in New Delhi and other state capitals pending allotment of land in a central area at nominal rate for IFSMN's own building.

(10) IFSMN ON OFFICIAL COMMITTEES

Centre and State Governments should take representatives of IFSMN on its various committees as IFSMN alone can speak for small and medium newspapers in the country.

(11) Small papers should be treated as an industry and loans be provided to them.

(12) Newspapers, periodicals should be treated as first class mail by P&T and not as second class mail as at present to cut down time loss.

Curbing entry of LTTE men in India

269. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is free entry of LTTE men in the Tamil Nadu